



southburlington

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Climate Action Plan Task Force Charter

Adopted: August 17, 2021

The City of South Burlington, under its Charter authority in § 13-307(4) and aligned to Resolution #2017-14A “City Council Resolution on Climate Change” and Resolution #2021-10 “Resolution for Policymaking to Reduce Carbon Emissions and Counteract Climate Change,” hereby establishes the Climate Action Plan Task Force. This Task Force is a task-oriented body stood up for the sole purpose of working with the CCRPC and the Vermont Climate Council to develop a Climate Action Plan for the City of South Burlington that addresses the targets previously set by the Council through resolution and by the State of Vermont through state statute. The objective of this Task Force is to recommend to the Council within a year of the approval of this charter the adoption of a Climate Action Plan that identifies a series of strategic pathways that most realistically achieve the State and City’s climate goals for South Burlington.

This body operates within the laws of the State of Vermont, the South Burlington City Charter, and observes Vermont’s Open Meeting Laws. The Task Force has no supervisory authority over City staff, budgetary authority, or authority to give permission on behalf of the City to outside groups. Consultants and City staff will bring State guidance and best practices to the Task Force for consideration. With this Charter, the Task Force is authorized to assign work to the following City Committees to the ends of completing the Climate Action Plan: the Affordable Housing Committee, the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee, the Economic Development Committee, the Energy Committee, and the Natural Resources and Conservation Committee; and to coordinate with the Planning Commission on the Plan’s completion. City Committees included in this Charter are asked to prepare for this work in their workplans throughout the duration. Following the adoption of the Climate Action Plan, the Council will further task staff and committees with implementing the strategies outlined in the Plan.

Membership shall be comprised of seven voting members appointed by the City Council. The Committees shall recommend members and the Council shall appoint members according to this formula:

- 1 current member of the Affordable Housing Committee
- 1 current member of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee
- 1 current member of the Economic Development Committee
- 2 current members of the Energy Committee
- 1 current member of the Natural Resources and Conservation Committee
- 1 current member of the Planning Commission

Members shall serve for a two-year term or until the Council adopts a Climate Action Plan, whichever comes first. The Task Force’s work focuses on policy planning around addressing climate change at the local level. To that end, Task Force members will demonstrate some familiarity with climate change principles and local governance structures. Given the policy role in advising the Council, a commitment to principles of equity and inclusion are paramount.

This Task Force will be co-supported by a Council Liaison, appointed on an annual basis from the City Council, and a Staff Liaison appointed on an annual basis by the City Manager. These individuals are non-voting members of the Task Force.

Established on this 17th day of August, 2021.

South Burlington City Council



Helen Riehle, Chair



Meaghan Emery, Vice-Chair



Tim Barritt, Clerk



Thomas Chittenden, Councilor



Matt Cota, Councilor

South Burlington City Manager



Jessie Baker, City Manager